

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. On a computer capable of implementing version control, a method comprising:
 - providing a version control system on the computer;
 - creating within the version control system an associative array comprising a collection of keys and corresponding values; and
 - applying a version control operation to the associative array to version control the collection of keys and corresponding values.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the version control operation includes at least one of add, create, edit, remove, modify, delete, commit, merge, rollback, query, delta or annotate.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising structuring the associative array as a single file and version controlling the single file.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising viewing an associative array as a database record.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising organizing a collection of associative arrays as a database table.
6. The method of claim 5, further comprising a specification file which defines at least one of table characteristics default value or constraints on allowable values.
7. The method of claim 5; further comprising organizing a collection of database tables as a database.
8. The method of claim 5, further comprising applying a version control operation to the collection of associative arrays.
9. The method of claim 5, wherein the version control operation includes at least one of add, create, edit, remove, modify, delete, commit, merge, rollback, query, delta or annotate.
10. The method of claim 1, further comprising means for replicating at least a portion of the version control system.
11. The method of claim 1, further comprising means for structuring and arranging for peer to peer communication.

12. The method of claim 5, further comprising generating a report combining the associative array with other data and/or meta data contained within the version control system

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically resolving a selected conflict occurring in the values of the associative array.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically resolving a selected conflict, using a merge algorithm having knowledge of the data, occurring in the values of the associative array.

15. The method of claim 1, further comprising manually resolving a selected conflict occurring in the keys by evaluating historical values of the keys containing the conflict.

16. The method of claim 1, further comprising version controlling a database containing the associative array.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the version controlling of the database is performed utilizing replicated repositories of the version control system.

18. The method of claim 1, further comprising creating within the version control system a plurality of associative arrays.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising:
replicating the plurality of associative arrays;
editing at least one of the plurality of associative arrays; and
committing the edited and unedited plurality of associative arrays back to the version control system.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising version controlling the plurality of associative arrays in original form prior to the editing of at least one of the plurality of associative arrays.

21. The method of claim 19, further comprising version controlling the edited and unedited plurality of associative arrays following the committing of the edited and unedited plurality of associative arrays back to the version control system.

22. An apparatus for implementing version control, comprising:
means for providing a version control system;
means for creating within the version control system an associative array comprising a collection of keys and corresponding values; and

means for applying a version control operation to the associative array to version control the collection of keys and corresponding values.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising means for organizing a collection of associative arrays as a database table.

24. The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising means for operating the version control system within a peer-to-peer replicated network with another version control system.

25. A computer system capable of implementing version control, comprising:
a processor; and
a memory in communication with the processor, the memory having stored thereon a set of data and instructions including a version control system which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

creating within the version control system an associative array comprising a collection of keys and corresponding values; and

applying a version control operation to the associative array to version control the collection of keys and corresponding values.

26. The computer system of claim 25, further comprising the processor performing the step of organizing a collection of associative arrays as a database table.

27. The computer system of claim 25, further comprising the processor performing the step of operating the version control system within a peer-to-peer replicated network with another version control system.

28. A computer system, comprising:
a first user computer comprising:
a first version control system accessible by the first user computer;
means for creating within the first version control system an associative array; and
means for applying a version control operation to the associative array;

a second user computer networked with the first user computer, each of the first user computer and the second user computer capable of operating independently in a peer to peer replicated environment, the second user computer comprising:

a second version control system accessible by the second user computer;

means for creating within the version control system an associative array; and

means for applying a version control operation to the associative array.

29. The system of claim 28, further comprising means for merging an edit made within the first version control system into the second version control system and vice-versa.

30. The system of claim 28, further comprising means for resolving a conflict that results from an edit made within either the first version control system or the second version control system.

31. The system of claim 28, further comprising means for organizing a collection of associative arrays as a database table in the first version control system.

32. The system of claim 28, further comprising means for organizing a collection of associative arrays as a database table in the second version control system.

33. A computer readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps:

implementing a version control system on the computer readable medium;
creating within the version control system an associative array comprising a collection of keys and corresponding values; and

applying a version control operation to the associative array in order to version control the collection of keys and corresponding values.

34. The computer readable medium of claim 33, further comprising the processor performing the step of organizing a collection of associative arrays as a database table.

35. The computer readable medium of claim 33, further comprising the processor performing the step of operating the version control system within a peer-to-peer replicated network with another version control system.